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qualify them for self-government. The author has performed his task *ad nauseam*. We fear that his representations are too true; but we are sorry to have such loathsome and pernicious details made current in a popular book. Especially must we condemn the gratuitous and disgusting prominence given to the prevailing licentiousness of the French capital.

- 16.—*Africa and the American Flag*. By Commander ANDREW H. FOOTE, U. S. Navy. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1854. 24mo. pp. 390.

THIS book does honor to the author's head and heart. Its prime object is to illustrate the beneficent influence exerted by the American squadron on the Coast of Africa, in checking the slave-trade, in protecting the institutions of incipient civilization in and around the colonies, and in defending the legitimate commerce of our citizens. With this purpose, Captain Foote enters somewhat at large into the history and statistics of the Guinea Coast, Upper and Lower, and gives a condensed and spirited narrative of the cruise of the United States brig Perry, under his command, in the years 1850 and 1851. The work is characterized by a wise humanity, and contains much information and numerous suggestions that cannot but be of value to all who are interested in plans for the regeneration of Africa.

- 17.—*The Church: in a Series of Discourses*. By REV. SYLVESTER JUDD, Pastor of Christ Church, Augusta, Maine. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, & Co. 1854. 12mo. pp. 274.

THE object of the Sermons in this volume is to set forth the Christian and ecclesiastical rights of the children of Christian parents,—their right to be regarded and educated as born members of the Church, and to avail themselves from their earliest years of all the benefits and privileges to be derived from the organization and ordinances of the Church. As to the formal portion of the author's theory, there must of course be a wide diversity of opinion; but his clear and masterly exposure of prevalent defects and anomalies in what is called religious education, and his earnest advocacy of the highest standard of early Christian culture, must needs give currency and value to the book beyond the denomination of which he was a member. The Memoir of Mr. Judd,

which will soon be published, will afford us the opportunity, which we must now forego, of considering his merits as a literary artist, as also of paying our affectionate tribute to the memory of one whose noble powers and strenuous industry were consecrated to whatever could diffuse among men the spirit of heaven, and whose undeniable eccentricities, if they sometimes cast a penumbra over his genius, only heightened the manifestation of his kindliness and philanthropy.

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18. — 1. *Russia as it is.* By COUNT A. DE GUROWSKI. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 24mo. pp. 312.
2. *The Knout and the Russians; or, the Muscovite Empire, the Czar, and his People.* By GERMAIN DE LAGNY. Translated from the French by JOHN BRIDGEMAN. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1854. 16mo. pp. 266.

COUNT GUROWSKI is a Pole by birth, and was actively engaged in the Polish insurrection of 1830–31. At a subsequent period he became a zealous champion of Panslavism, and looked to the Emperor Nicholas, in the earlier and better portion of his career, as the destined head of the Slavic races. He is now again a republican exile, after having won the right to say, with regard to the principles and policy of the Russian autocrat, *Expertus novi*. His work is almost wholly confined to the political condition and administration of the empire, and constitutes, as we suppose, by far the most trustworthy source of information on that subject within reach of the American public. He writes in the most grave and serious spirit, and is evidently more solicitous to convey the exact truth, than to give vent to his personal prejudices and enmities.

The Frenchman's book, garnished with illustrative engravings, is light, sketchy, dashing, almost gay, though the subject-matter is all sombre and sad. It enters into numerous details of manners, customs, domestic life, and characteristic anecdotes. It gives a sad picture of the priesthood and the religious condition of the Russian Empire, which is represented as being hardly a shade above heathenism.

These books, though occupying separate planes of delineation, mutually confirm each other. They corroborate the belief, which we had derived from other sources, that the Russian government, with its show of invincible strength, has the weakness of barbarism, and cannot permanently sustain itself in conflict with more civilized nations. Its finances are ill-managed; its commissariat inefficient and corrupt; its military forces, for the most part, poorly appointed, ill-disciplined, and